

# CCMSgt John A. Ternau



**DATES OF SERVICE:** 17 April 1969  
To Present

**DATE OF RANK:** 22 November 1995

**STATUS:** Nevada Air National Guard Command Chief  
Master Sergeant

Chief Ternau enlisted in the Nevada Air National Guard in April 1969 and was assigned to the Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron (CAM Sq) as an aircraft navigation systems mechanic. After returning from tech school at Keesler AFB he worked as a traditional Guardsman and for a short time worked for a local electronic company. He also went back to college in pursuit of the engineering degree he started at Arizona State University. In November 1970 Ternau was offered a full time position as a navigation systems repairman at the Nevada Air National Guard.

As a full time Guardsman then Sergeant Ternau was assigned in the communications/navigation shop working RF-101H, RF-101B, C-54, T-29, and transit C-130 aircraft. In 1975 he was selected as the navigation shop supervisor for the newly acquired RF-4C. Over the next 20 years Chief Ternau was promoted numerous times and served as the comm/nav supervisor, radar supervisor, sensor supervisor, and temporary avionics branch chief. During this period the National Guard Bureau selected Chief Ternau as the SPOC and technical advisor on RF-4C avionics upgrades and modifications. He also completed Non-commissioned Officer Academy via correspondence, Community College of the Air Force degree, and the Senior NCO Academy in residence.

In 1995 with a conversion to C-130 aircraft, then SMSgt Ternau was promoted to Chief and assigned as the equipment maintenance flight manager for the 152 Airlift Wing. He was NCOIC of several deployments to Panama and Italy with the Pacer Coin aircraft. When Pacer Coin was retired in 1998 Chief Ternau was then moved to the component repair flight where he coordinated the maintenance activities of the avionics, engine, and accessories sections. He was again deployed as the NCOIC to Coronet Oak, Southern Watch, and Deliberate Guard. In March 2003 he was mobilized and deployed for Operation Enduring Freedom and two Operation Iraqi Freedom tours.

In May 2005 Chief Ternau was selected as the 7<sup>th</sup> Command Chief Master Sergeant for the State of Nevada.

## AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL  
AIR FORCE COMMENDATION MEDAL  
AIR FORCE ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL  
ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL  
AIR FORCE OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD  
AIR RESERVE FORCES MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL  
NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL  
ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL  
GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL  
ARMED FORCES SERVICE MEDAL  
AIR FORCE OVERSEAS RIBBON SHORT  
AIR FORCE EXPEDITIONARY SERVICE RIBBON  
AIR FORCE LONGEVITY SERVICE  
ARMED FORCES RESERVE MEDAL w/M  
USAF NCO PME GRADUATE RIBBON  
SMALL AIRMS EXPERT MARKSMANSHIP RIBBON